

VOL.10, NO. 3

VOICE & HANDS

SUMMER 2015

After two devastating earthquakes...

HOPE COMES to Nepal p. 8

A Unique Source of
Water in Central Asia p. 4

Hindu Man's Prayer
Answered by Jesus p. 6

Water Filters Open
Hearts in Ghana p. 12

Wayne a word from



When Jesus went into a town to preach, not only were individual lives changed, entire communities were impacted. In John 4, Jesus took time to share His message of hope and redemption with a lost Samaritan woman who took that message back to her community.

The villagers were so intrigued by what she shared that they went to visit Jesus and the result changed the community. They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”

That’s what happens when Jesus comes into a community.

It’s because of this kind of impact that Reach Beyond is sharing the love of Jesus—not just with people who have never heard of Him, but also in communities where He is not widely known.

Community development has become a priority for us at Reach Beyond. By providing clean water, critical healthcare, training and leadership empowerment through the local church, the gospel is spreading and lives and communities are being changed.

I invite you to join with us in reaching beyond our comfort zones to make an eternal difference in communities where people still need Jesus. Just as He brought hope to an outcast Samaritan community, He is still doing the same thing today—and we get the privilege of being His “hands” to those who need to know His love.

Serving Him together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Pederson". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'W'.

Wayne Pederson
President, Reach Beyond



HOPE for HARMI

Harmi is a tiny village in remote northern Nepal. Most people have never heard of this community, but God is moving in Harmi. In fact, in February a group of new believers gathered for the first time as a church to worship.

Reach Beyond first began a partnership with the people of this village in 2010, working with a local partner to help establish a community radio station that proclaims the gospel. Later the mission also helped build a much-needed birthing center, all while proclaiming the love of Jesus.

But the earthquakes of April 25 and May 12 reduced much of the village to a pile of rubble. Only two people were killed, but most of the residents were left homeless, living in makeshift shelters. The damage isn't just physical. It's also had a profound emotion and spiritual impact.

That's why Reach Beyond launched "Hope for Harmi," a comprehensive project to help restore this village.

We are committed, with your help, prayers and partnership, to rebuild homes and restore lives in Jesus' name.

As part of Hope for Harmi, you will help:

- Repair damage to the radio station and hundreds of homes/buildings in the community.
- Equip the people with materials necessary to rebuild the village.
- Make sure the village has a fresh, sustainable water source.
- Distribute solar-powered, fixed-tuned radios, enabling people to hear the good news of Jesus.

You can be an agent of God in restoring this village. Please join us today by praying, sharing the need with others and giving generously at reachbeyond.org/harmi.



LIKE a FISH
OUT OF WATER:

IRRIGATION IN
CENTRAL ASIA

*by Jon Fugler, Vice President of
Advancement, Reach Beyond*



I don't swim. In fact, I can't swim. So installing a waterwheel pump into a fast-moving aqueduct in the countryside in Central Asia officially qualifies me as being a fish out of water.

This is where I found myself in mid-April, and it turned out to be one of the most unique experiences of my life. Honestly, my role was minimal. That's because the local partners and farmers had the project under control without me.

As you can see, it isn't an ordinary pump. Its origins aren't ordinary either. It was built from the top half of a farmer's Mercedes van. He cut off the top and converted it into the paddles you see in the images. Then the van became a truck that was used to transport the pump to its resting place in the aqueduct.

So what does a water pump have to do with ministry? A lot, when you consider this is a way to show people you care. When you care, relationship happens. And when relationship happens, you get to share the most important relationship with them—your relationship with Jesus Christ.

In this Central Asia country, less than 1 percent of the population is Christian. When I joined a pair of missionary engineers from Europe on this pump project, they had already been working with the local farmer for four to five months in preparation for this day. And I could see clearly that they had a relationship with this man and his family. They had labored alongside him for the opportunity to provide water for his farm and to share Living Water, too.

Today that pump is delivering

100 tons of water to the farmland about 500 yards away. And it does this every day. Has it changed the farmer's life? Absolutely! But think how much more his life will change when he meets Jesus for the first time.

Please pray that the over 5 million people in this unreached country would have the opportunity to hear the gospel and respond. The pump experience, for me, was a lesson in ministry in a country where you have to be licensed by the government to teach the Bible and proclaim His Word in a church.

Hear firsthand about what God is doing in Central Asia in the Reach Beyond podcast at www.reachbeyond.org/podcast. 



Above: This waterwheel pump was installed in a Central Asian aqueduct to give farmers access to water.

Left: Nationals play a Central Asian sport on horseback.

Former Hindu Man's Prayer Answered in Unexpected Way



If you've never had a chance to travel around the world, you can get a taste for just about any culture in one meeting with Sunil Kapur, someone who might just be the world's most interesting man.

Sunil is of Indian descent but was raised in Kenya. Later in life he immigrated to Canada and today he's a former Hindu, Indian, African turned Canadian believer. But if you ask Sunil about his heritage, he will say, "I am a child of the living God and a permanent resident of heaven."

Reared in a devout Hindu family, Sunil used to pray the same prayer for years: "Lead me from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth, from mortality to immortality." Little did he know that one day he would meet the One who would answer that prayer.

As a child, several missionaries crossed Sunil's path. Many simply cared enough to see how he was doing or buy him an ice cream and share the love of Jesus. Others were more direct in introducing him to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

After years of searching to meet the One he had been praying to, he began to trust the words of missionaries and eventually gave his life to Christ. Indeed, he had passed from darkness to light. "As Scripture came alive through the lives of people, that's what changed my life," he said.

Like most stories of faith, it wasn't magical or void of trouble. For years Sunil struggled and eventually strayed far from God. He became a flight attendant and indulged in

a life full of promiscuity and sinful living. Sunil needed change, but he had no idea how God was about to intervene.


While at home, men broke in and threatened the lives of his sister and parents. Hearing the scuffling, Sunil ran in with a knife. Seeing his family in great danger, he threw down the knife and said, "Take what you want but don't take our lives."

"It was as though the Spirit of God came into that room and they just took off," Sunil recalled. "But before they left, they took my knife and sliced me. My whole cheek just fell down."

It was in that moment when his spiritual pain cried out, "What am I doing God? Where am I going? Why didn't they just kill me?" Within Sunil's heart he heard the voice of God calling him back into a sincere relationship with Him.

From then on, Sunil sought after God. He developed a passion to share the love of Christ with the lost and teach other believers to do the same.

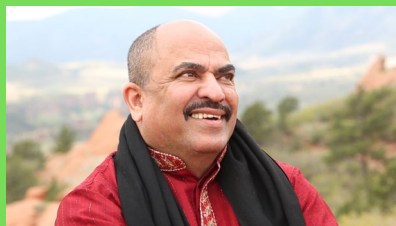
Now living in Toronto, Sunil has joined Reach Beyond-Canada to be an instrument to declare Christ among the nations, especially now that the "nations" are coming to Canada.

"Sharing Christ goes hand in hand with care, compassion, providing healthcare and clean water and so many other things," shared Sunil. "That's what it means to reach beyond." 

Left: Reach Beyond President Wayne Pederson with Sunil Kapur on a recent visit to the Canadian world office.

Right: Sunil speaks about his testimony for a video shot in Colorado.

See Sunil's video testimony at reachbeyond.org.





RESPONDING
with **HOPE**
IN NEPAL

Pedestrians look on at a structure



Structure demolished by the first earthquake that hit Nepal.

When media reports began spreading worldwide that a powerful earthquake had ravaged Nepal on April 25, Reach Beyond sprang into action, eager to help where needed.

Why? The ministry has eight partner FM radio stations in the country. They broadcast a message of hope in Christ to a nation where there is small, but growing church. Believers now comprise about 2.8 percent of the population, according to *Operation World*.

The latest death toll from the original 7.8-magnitude quake and subsequent 7.3-force temblor on May 12, is nearly 9,000 with some 20,000 injured and hundreds of thousands homeless.

As Ty Stakes, Reach Beyond executive director of the Asia Pacific Region, made contact with the mission's local radio partners, he discovered that three of the eight stations were off the air. He found that one of the radio partners was attending a Saturday worship service in Kathmandu when the quake hit, damaging his house.

He and his family on the fourth floor of a building when it began to shake and sway. Clasp hands as the structure swayed, they all managed to get out safely.

That night, his family decided to sleep outside under a tarp. However, they still got wet and cold because of the constant rains and decided to sleep in their vehicle. When they opened the car's windows to let in some fresh air, the family became infested with mosquitoes, putting them at risk of contracting malaria.

"We were able to give them a tent, and we set it up for them," said Sheila Leech, Reach Beyond vice president of global healthcare. "They were so thrilled, and we were able to pray with them. It was a good end to a frustrating day." Leech was part of a four-member

assessment team that came to Nepal within days of the initial quake to see where the mission could help the most.

Another long-term partner, Ramesh, had his house destroyed in the Himalayan community of Harmi—just 10 miles from the epicenter. Unlike other disasters around the world where Reach Beyond has sent emergency medical response

teams in the past, they team didn't find many victims with broken bones or other blunt-force trauma. In Harmi, only two people died. That's because the temblor hit when most people were outside their homes.

However, the quake temporarily stopped the broadcasts from the partner station in Harmi that can be heard by an estimated

UNSHAKEN

by Steve Johnson, Executive Director of Communications, Reach Beyond

I've never experienced the horror of an earthquake. I've been through events that rocked my world, but never the ground beneath me. The problem with earthquakes? They do both.

When the earthquakes of April 25 and May 12 hit Nepal, not only were buildings shaken and ruined, so were lives. And in most cases, as the ground was crumbling, the people were crying out to gods who did not hear them.

Where does someone go when their world physically and spiritually collapses?

As Christians, we know that these kinds of situations draw us into the arms of a loving Savior who promises even to guide us through the "valley of the shadow of death." But for those who don't know Him, their cries for help go unheard.

That's why Reach Beyond responded as we did. Our team needed to be the answer to prayers that most of the people didn't know they were even praying. Events like this open the door for people to see the gospel in action.

When our team arrived in Harmi, a small Himalayan village in northern Nepal, they saw almost complete destruction. Sheila Leech, our vice president of global healthcare, shared about one nurse in the community who came up to her and said, "Oh Sheila, my Harmi, cracked and broken." Old men in the community greeted her with tears in their eyes and a look of disbelief on their faces.

But when our team saw the physical, emotional and spiritual devastation, they couldn't just report on the situation and leave. Instead, they immediately began to provide support for the community.

Within hours, they were providing temporary shelters. Within days they had developed a comprehensive program called Hope for Harmi. Reach Beyond is now working to provide needed supplies and teams to help restore Harmi. More than anything, we want to give Harmi a consistent witness for Jesus Christ so that everyone in that village will have a chance to come to faith in Him.

In February, just two months before the first quake, a small group of believers had formed Harmi's first church and had their initial worship service. Our dream? To see that church filled to overflowing with new believers who now know that while the ground beneath may shake, their lives are secure in the Rock of our salvation.



Left: Sheila Leech tends to a wounded man.
Bottom Left: Tents are used for shelter in the city following the quake.
Bottom Right: An example of the destruction that the quake caused throughout Nepal.



100,000 people in the region. While the building was destroyed, most of the equipment, including the tower and antenna, withstood the shaking well, enabling limited broadcasts to resume from a temporary facility.

“Clasping hands as the structure swayed, they all managed to get out safely.”

Miraculously, a birthing center opened in Harmi with Reach Beyond’s help in 2013, came through the temblor unscathed.

As Swedish nurse Gabriella Egberth, a

member of Reach Beyond emergency medical response team, put it, “the birthing center is stable and didn’t suffer a single crack!”

Stakes added that the center’s quality construction, including rebar-reinforced concrete, made a big difference, but he credits the Lord for saving the facility that provides an invaluable service to pregnant women in the area, especially since the nearest hospital is two hours away.

You can help restore Harmi, as well as provide hope and healing to hurting people all over the world. Give now at reachbeyond.org.





Water Opens hearts in GHANA

Andrew and Laura Rescorla were in a quandary. Missionary engineers with Reach Beyond, they'd traveled to eastern Ghana to meet with local villagers about their water problems.

"At the two villages we visited a few times—Ketisinu and Doglokpo—the people fetch water from nearby waterholes," explained Andrew, a civil engineer. "These waterholes are horribly dirty, loaded with disease-causing bacteria."

The residents used to get water from

nearby streams and rivers, but they're often dry because of a new dam built upriver. "This has had a profound effect on the people living in this region. They can no longer fish in the nearby rivers and, more importantly, they now struggle to access water," Andrew added.

As the Rescorlas discussed options with village leaders, their frustrations only grew. Drilling boreholes wasn't recommended because the water is too salty and only available seasonally.

"Laura and I came to these villages with



Andrew Rescorla hands a local villager a clay water filter.

some ideas,” Andrew said. “Since some of the houses had metal roofs, we thought perhaps we could fit gutters to the roofs and pipe the water into storage tanks.”

“But our ideas didn’t match up with the people’s ideas,” he lamented, adding that village leaders only wanted to expand their muddy waterholes. Speaking through a translator, the local people made comments such as “we will accept whatever you give us” and “beggars can’t be choosers.”

“This was the last thing we wanted to hear,”

Andrew said. “We don’t want them to feel like beggars. We don’t want to simply give them things.” While clean water was the objective, Andrew and Laura were ultimately there to demonstrate the love of Christ.

Finally, the Rescorlas suggested the villagers try using clay pot filters to improve the quality of the water they had. An organization in northern Ghana had developed a “simple but extremely effective clay pot filter,” Andrew said.

Despite the village leaders’ skepticism, the Rescorlas returned with a sample filter. “After we set it on a bench, the people looked at the filter, touched it and watched water flow through it. Someone brought a cup so people could taste the filtered water. They told us they had never seen anything like it.”

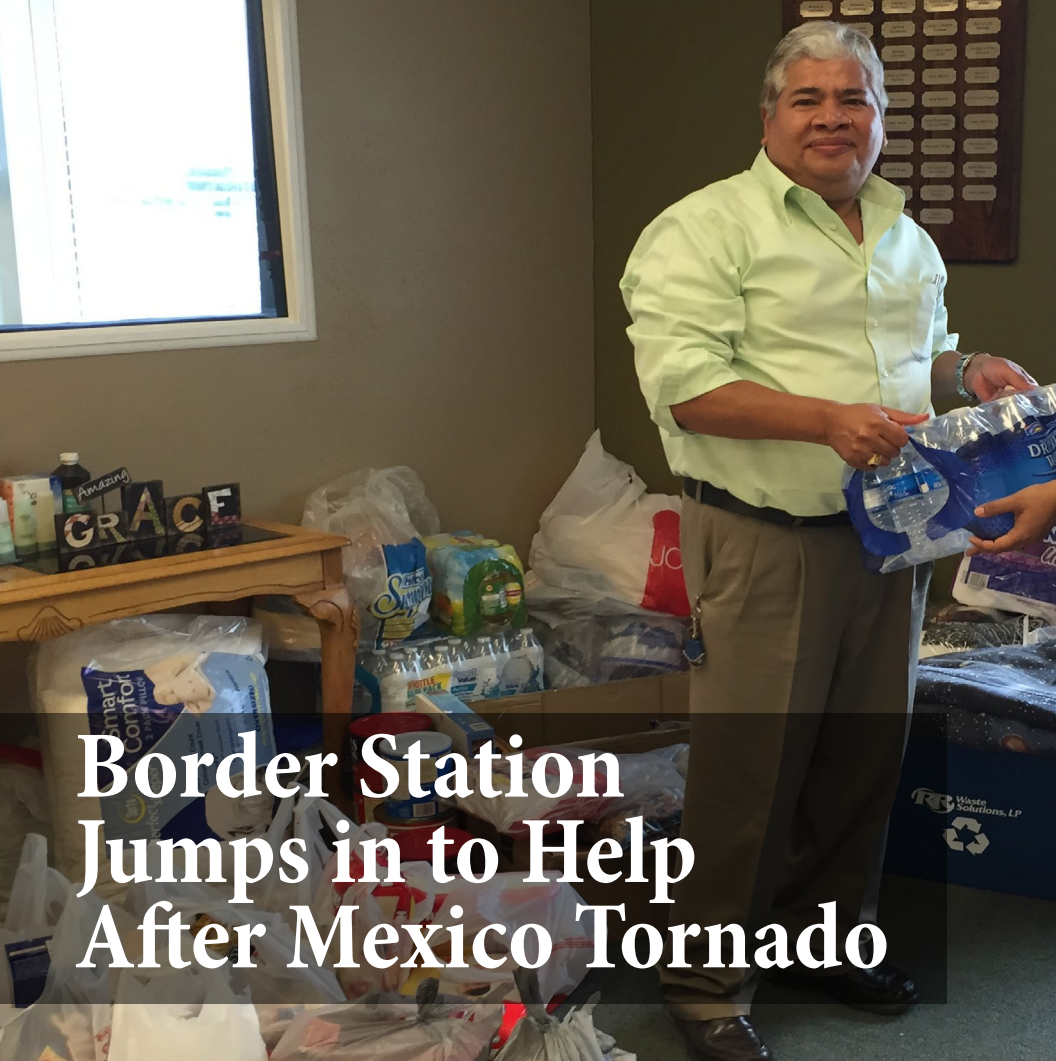
“These waterholes are horribly dirty, loaded with disease-causing bacteria.”

In April the Rescorlas came back again, this time with 13 filters—seven for one village and six for the other. The clay pots have tiny pores that screen out impurities from the water.

“The people were excited and enthusiastic about the filters,” said Laura, an environmental engineer. The recipients were glad to help pay for the cost of the filters.

“We’ll continue a relationship with these communities. We hope that addressing this physical need will help give weight to the words that the local pastors share about our God who cares for their physical and spiritual needs,” she concluded.

Pray for the people of Ghana as they receive clean water and learn about the Living Water. 📌



Border Station Jumps in to Help After Mexico Tornado

Rosie Rabell had trouble sleeping in the early-morning hours of Monday, May 25, as lighting flashed, thunder crashed, and heavy rains soaked her home in the border city of Del Rio, Texas.

“I had never experienced anything like that,” said Rosie. “I just knew something terrible would happen, but I never expected it would be as bad as it was.”

Waking up around 6:30 a.m., she noticed that KVFE-FM, the Spanish-language Christian radio station that she manages,

was off the air. The station is operated by Inspiracom, one of Reach Beyond’s partner ministries.

She soon heard reports that a powerful tornado had swept through nearby Ciudad Acuña, Mexico. A twister packing winds around 240 mph devastated parts of the city, killing 14 people, injuring over 200 and leaving 6,000 homeless.

Rosie headed straight to KVFE which was off the air due to a power outage caused by the storm. After power was restored later that day, the station began to broadcast



Rosie Rabell, manager of partner station KVFE, receives a donation of emergency supplies that were delivered across the border to Ciudad Acuña.

messages of peace, comfort, and the goodness of God. Rosie began inviting local pastors to come to the station to pray for listeners.

She also began organizing relief efforts, together with churches and set up a collection center where listeners could drop off donations for tornado victims.

Rosie knows that situations like this often open a door to the gospel. “This is a key moment for allowing the love of God to be shared with the local community.” 📌

Empathy: Your Pain in My Heart

*by Jim Allen,
Global Pastor*



We live in a hurting world—poverty, illness, disaster, wars, etc.—turning people’s lives upside down. But where do God’s people fit in to these painful settings?

The Old Testament character Nehemiah provides a good model of someone who answered the call. His heart was profoundly burdened for what had been broken—the walls and people of Jerusalem. In the process, Nehemiah developed the following three attitudes that made their restoration possible:

- A heart for God and His reputation. In ancient times a broken down city wall signified that their god was not able to protect his people. Today God’s reputation is elevated as His people step in to help.
- A heart for people and their real needs. Hurting people not only need to be cared for, but they need to meet the Healer.
- A heart for equipping people. It’s one thing to help restore a life, but to teach them about restoration in Christ makes an eternal difference.

God called Nehemiah to step into a big gap. Because of his burden, God used him to restore a broken city and the broken lives that came as a result. It was the beginning of a period of renewal for the city and people of God.

We have the same opportunity to be “Nehemiah” in our world, bringing restoration to a broken world—whether it be Nepal, Mexico, Central Asia or Ghana—as the “voice and

Listen to the New Podcasts July 1 and 15 at reachbeyond.org/podcast.

Learn more about
Mission Mongolia and
ministry in Latin America.



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A wide-angle photograph of a densely packed town in Mongolia, showing colorful buildings and a hilly landscape under a clear blue sky.

mission:
mongolia